Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05

OES-05 OMB-01 L-03 HEW-06 AGR-10 DODE-00 EB-07 SCA-01

PA-02 PRS-01 NEA-10 /118 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4836

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 6203

DEPARTMENT FOR THE SECRETARY VIENNA FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: SNAR YO

SUBJ: DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE

REF: STATE 253482

- 1. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THIS EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO US EFFORTS TO COMBAT INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS AND EVILS RESULTING THEREFROM.
- 2. CURRENTLY, AND TRADITIONALLY, GOY HAS PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS ORGANIZATIONS AND HAS COOPERATED EXTENSIVELY WITH US ON BILATERAL BASIS TO CONTROL SPREAD AND USE OF ILLICIT DRUGS. I AM CONVINCED THAT YUGOSLAVS WILL CONTINUE TO WORK DILIGENTLY TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF SMALL INTERNAL DRUG PROBLEM WHILE REMAINING COMMITTED TO INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS COOPERATIVE EFFORTS.

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3. SINCE DOMESTIC MORPHINE PRODUCTION WAS BROUGHT

UNDER STRICT FEDERAL CONTROL WHICH VIRTUALLY INSURES
AGAINST LEAKAGE OF CROP INTO ILLICIT CHANNELS, YUGOSLAVIA'S
PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING PROBLEM HAS REMAINED THAT
OF TRANSIT COUNTRY OF INTERNATIONAL SMUGGLING OPERATIONS.
WITH THE CLOSING DOWN OF TURKEY
AS A MAJOR MIDDLE EAST SUPPLIER OF ILLEGAL HEROIN,
HASHISH HAS BECOME THE MAIN NARCOTIC CONTRABAND WHICH IS
SMUGGLED THROUGH YUGOSLAVIA DESTINED PRIMARILY TO WESTERN
EUROPEAN MARKETS.

4. WHILE THIS SMUGGLING ROUTE IS AT PRESENT A RELATIVELY INNOCUOS ELEMENT IN THE US DRUG PROBLEM, IT COULD BECOME A SERIOUS THREAT TO OUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER THE ENTRY OF ILLICIT MIDDLE EASTERN HEROIN IF SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF MORPHINE-BASE OR HEROIN FROM NEW TURKISH POPPY CROPS WERE DIVERTED INTO ILLICIT CHANNELS. IF, GOD FORBID, THIS SHOULD COME TO PASS, THE USG MIGHT CONSIDER OFFERING THE GOY ASSISTANCE IN IMPROVING ENFORCEMENT AGAINST NARCOTICS SMUGGLING, PARTICULARLY AT THE CRUCIAL DIMITROV-GRAD CROSSING POINT ON THE BULGARIAN BORDER WHERE MOST OF THE NARCOTICS CROSS INTO YUGOSLAVIA. BASED ON CAUTIOUS SOUNDINGS WE HAVE ALREADY MADE HERE, THIS CAN ONLY BE DONE AT SOME RISK OF INJURY TO YUGOSLAV PRIDE SO I EMPHASIZE THAT THIS COURSE SHOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A SERIOUS SITUATION MILITATES FOR IT.

5. FAILING THE REVIVAL OF A SERIOUS MIDDLE EASTERN HEROIN THREAT TO THE DOMESTIC US DRUG SCENE, I RECOMMEND THAT WE CONTINUE THE SUCCESSFUL AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL BILATERAL COOPERATION WE ALREADY HAVE WITH YUGOSLAVIA IN THE FIELD OF NARCOTICS.
SILBERMAN

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